

Amendments to Specification:

Please amend paragraphs [0009] through [0011] and [0013]-[0015] of the DETAILED DESCRIPTION as follows:

[0009] The tapers shown in sealing zones 1, 2 have been exaggerated to assist in explaining the invention, and are conical in shape. In practice, the tapers will instead have the dimensions described below. Pipette tip ejector 3 has an annular cross section and is axially movable downward with respect to a pipette tip mounting shaft, from the position shown past first annular pipette tip stop 5. Pipette tip mounting shaft includes first and second pipette conically tapered sealing zones 1, 2, each being coaxial along axis 14. The narrow end 4 of first sealing zone 1 has an outer diameter of 0.11 to 0.13 inches, while the wide end 5 has an outer diameter of 0.15 to 0.19 inches. First sealing zone 1 ~~is also~~ has a length 13 of 0.15 to 0.20 in. ~~long~~, and therefore has a taper at an angle 10 of 84 to 90 degrees with respect to the plane perpendicular to axis 14. It will be appreciated that throughout this specification, the word "taper" is used, although if an angle of 90 degrees is used, this will not actually be a taper.

[0010] In a second embodiment for holding medium-sized pipette tips, the narrow end 4 of first sealing zone 1 has an outer diameter of 0.18 to 0.20 inches, while the wide end 5 has an outer diameter of 0.20 to 0.22 inches. First sealing zone 1 ~~is also~~ has a length 13 of 0.10 to 0.15 in. ~~long~~, and therefore has a taper at an angle 10 of 84 to 90 degrees with respect to the plane perpendicular to axis 14.

[0011] In a third embodiment for holding large pipette tips, the narrow end 4 of first sealing zone 1 has an outer diameter of 0.25 to 0.28 inches, while the wide end 5 has an outer diameter of 0.28 to 0.30 inches. First sealing zone 1 ~~is also~~ has a length 13 of 0.13 to 0.15 in.-long, and therefore has a taper at an angle 10 of 84 to 90 degrees with respect to the plane perpendicular to axis 14.

[0013] The present invention also accommodates pipette tips of different sizes, and multiple stops prevent each differently sized pipette from being too tightly secured to the pipette tip mounting shaft to require excessive force to eject the tip. Specifically, the pipette mounting shaft may be inserted into a pipette tip with a wider internal diameter until it sealingly engages second sealing surface 2, which is also conical in shape and coaxial with first sealing surface 1. The narrow end 6 of second sealing zone 2 has an outer diameter of 0.20 to 0.21 inches, while the wide end 7 has an outer diameter of 0.22 to 0.23 inches. Second sealing zone 2 ~~is also~~ has a length 12 of 0.53 to 0.63 in.-long, and therefore has a taper at an angle 11 of 86 to 90 degrees with respect to the plane perpendicular to axis 14.

[0014] In a second embodiment for holding medium-sized pipette tips, the narrow end 6 of second sealing zone 2 has an outer diameter of 0.22 to 0.24 inches, while the wide end 7 has an outer diameter of 0.24 to 0.26 inches. Second sealing zone 2 ~~is also~~ has a length 12 of 0.13 to 0.17 in.-long, and therefore has a taper at an angle 11 of 86 to 90 degrees with respect to the plane perpendicular to axis 14.

[0015] In a third embodiment for holding large pipette tips, the narrow end 6 of second sealing zone 2 has an outer diameter of 0.30 to 0.32 inches, while the wide end 7 has an outer diameter of 0.32 to 0.34 inches. Second sealing zone 2 ~~is also~~ has a length 12 of 0.15 to 0.17 in.~~-long~~, and therefore has a taper at an angle 11 of 86 to 90 degrees with respect to the plane perpendicular to axis 14.